



February 3, 2005

EX PARTE

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20054

Re: CS Docket No. 98-120

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On February 2, 2005, I talked to Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy by phone to reiterate cable programmers' opposition to requiring cable operators to carry broadcasters' analog and digital signals during the transition and the broadcasters' multicast digital signals after the transition. I expressed concerns about expanding broadcasters' must carry rights and the impact such a decision would have on Oxygen and other cable networks. I urged the Commissioner to vote to reaffirm the FCC's January 2001 decision on these issues at the February 10 Commission meeting.

Please direct any questions regarding this matter to my attention.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine B. Laybourne

GBL:ejf

cc: Commissioner Abernathy